

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 39 through page 6, line 8, with the following amended paragraph:

Summarizing, a returned signal $r(t)$ may include, at various stages in the return channel of a telephone link as caused by a speech signal $s(t)$ in the forward channel of the telephone link:

- a signal e_1 representing acoustic echo;
- a signal e_2 representing an electrical echo possibly in combination with the acoustic echo;
- a signal e_3 which represents the signal e_2 as affected, i.e. delayed or distorted, by the network 20;
- a signal e_4 which represents the signal e_3 in combination with a sidetone signal, and
- a signal e_5 which is an acoustic equivalent of the signal e_4 .

For ease of reference, such a return signal which may include any of these specific signals e_1 - e_5 will simply be referred to as an "returned artifact signal".